

ASFO NEPA DOCUMENT ROUTING SHEET

Number: **CX-AZ-110-2005-0022**

Project Title: **DIXIE ESCALANTE ELECTRIC POWERLINE TO SERVICE ADOT
VARIABLE MESSAGE SIGN**

Project Lead: Linda Barwick

Date that concurrent, electronic distribution for review was initiated: 1/20/2005

Deadline for receipt of responses: **2/10/2005**

Required Reviews:

Gloria Benson, Native American Coordinator

Tom Folks, Recreation

Laurie Ford, Lands/Realty/Minerals

Michael Herder, Wildlife

John Herron, Cultural

Lee Hughes, Plants

Ray Klein, GCPNM Supervisory Ranger

Linda Price, S&G

Bob Sandberg, Range

Richard Spotts, Environmental Coordinator

Ron Wadsworth, Supervisory Law Enforcement

Mike Herder, Acting Assistant Field Manager, Public Domain & Resources

Discretionary Reviews:

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ARIZONA STRIP FIELD OFFICE
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW**

CX-AZ-110-2005-0022

**PROJECT TITLE: DIXIE ESCALANTE ELECTRIC POWERLINE TO SERVICE ADOT
VARIABLE MESSAGE SIGN**

PROJECT LEAD: Linda Barwick

PROPOSED ACTION: Dixie Escalante Electric has requested a right-of-way for a 7.2/12.5 kV distribution power line to provide service to one of many proposed Arizona Department of Transportation information signs. This is the only sign located on BLM administered land on the Arizona Strip. The sign is necessary to inform the traveling public of possible problems and dangers entering the Virgin River Gorge from the North. The proposed location is north of the Black Rock interchange located at milepost 28.9 on the west side of Interstate 15. The proposed power line would take off from the existing three phase power line and extend a distance of 2041.3 feet across BLM administered land and state land to Interstate 15. The power line would be constructed using 40-4 western red cedar poles with one phase wire and one neutral wire of non-specular (non-reflective) conductor. Three poles will be located on BLM land placed approximately 330 feet apart for a distance of 1095 feet. The right-of-way width would be 50 feet, 25 feet each side of center. Vehicular travel would be kept to the minimum necessary for installation. A digger truck would be used to dig the holes 6 feet deep and to stand the structures. The conductor would be attached to pole #1 with two reels of wire on a wire trailer traveling cross-country along the R/W, stopping at each structure to put the conductor on the two position insulators. After the conductor is attached to structure #8 (state land), the wire would be sagged and each pole climbed to tie the conductor to the insulators. The conductors are not side by side, thus posing no risk to raptors. Construction equipment would be driven cross-country within the right-of-way. No road construction would take place. Construction will take approximately five days to complete. The right-of-way would be authorized for 30 years and would be renewable.

LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTION: The proposal is located in the following area:

Gila and Salt River Meridian, Mohave County, Arizona
T. 42 N., R. 12 W.,
sec. 31, E1/2.
Containing 1.26 acres, more or less.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with the Arizona Strip District Resource Management Plan and Standards and Guidelines RMP Amendments (1998). The proposed action **is** in conformance with the RMP. Decision **LR16** provides that individual rights-of-way would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis with National Environmental Policy Act analysis.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The proposed action is categorically excluded under 516 DM 6, Appendix 5.4.E(17) which provides for the granting of short rights-of-way for utility service or terminal access roads to an individual residence, outbuilding, or water well.

The proposal has been reviewed to determine if any of the exceptions described in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply. Surname(s) verify completion of this review by appropriate specialists.

NAME LIST OF EXCLUSION CRITERIA *Assign surnames for determination under each below*

LBarwick 1. The proposal would have no adverse effects on public health or safety: *Identify the effect if any*

TFolks 2. The proposal would not adversely affect unique geographic characteristics such as park,

recreation, or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wilderness study areas, wild and scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, floodplains, or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department's National Register of Natural Landmarks: *Identify the area that would be affected if any*

- JHerron 3. The proposal would have no adverse effects on historic or cultural resources: *Identify the effect if any*
- LBarwick 4. The proposal would have no highly controversial environmental effects: *Identify the effect if any*
- LBarwick 5. The proposal would have no highly uncertain or potentially significant environmental effects nor does it involve unique or unknown environmental risks: *Identify the effect if any*
- LBarwick 6. The proposal would not establish a precedent for future action or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration with potentially significant environmental effects: *Identify the effect if any*
- LBarwick 7. The proposal is not directly related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant effects: *Identify the other actions and their effects if any*
- JHerron 8. The proposal would not adversely affect properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places: *Identify the effect if any*
- LHughes 9. The proposal would not adversely affect a plant species listed or proposed to be listed on the list of endangered and threatened species, nor have adverse effects on designated critical habitat for these species: *Identify the species and effect if any*
- MHerder 10. The proposal would not adversely affect an animal species listed or proposed to be listed on the list of endangered and threatened species, nor have adverse effects on designated critical habitat for these species: *Identify the species and effect if any*
- LBarwick 11. The proposal would not require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management) or Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands). *Identify the order and effect if any*
- MHerder 12. The proposal would not require compliance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act: *Identify the effect if any*
- GBenson 13. The proposal does not threaten to violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment: *Identify the law and effect if any*
- LFord 14. The proposal is in conformance with the Arizona Strip District Resource Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement (January, 1992)

DECISION: We have reviewed this plan conformance and NEPA compliance record and have determined that the proposal is in conformance with the approved land use plan, that it would have no significant environmental effects, and that no further environmental analysis is required.

REVIEWED BY: _____ **DATE:** _____
Environmental Coordinator - Arizona Strip

IT IS MY DECISION TO IMPLEMENT THE PROPOSAL, AS DESCRIBED, WITH THE STIPULATIONS IN THE ATTACHMENT.

APPROVED BY: _____ **DATE:** _____

Field Manager - Arizona Strip

Terms and Conditions for Powerline Right-of-Way AZA-31349.

1. The holder shall conduct all activities associated with the construction, operation, and termination of the right-of-way within the authorized limits of the right-of-way.
2. All construction, maintenance, and vehicular traffic shall be confined to the right-of-way or designated access routes, roads, or trails unless otherwise authorized in writing by the authorized officer. No road construction (blading) is authorized. Equipment will be promptly removed when work is finished.
3. The holder shall evenly spread the excess soil excavated from pole holes within the right-of-way and in the immediate vicinity of the pole structure.
4. Construction sites shall be maintained in a sanitary condition at all times; waste materials at those sites shall be disposed of promptly at an appropriate waste disposal site. "Waste" means all discarded matter including, but not limited to, human waste, trash, garbage, refuse, oil drums, petroleum products, ashes, and equipment.
5. At no time shall vehicle or equipment fluids be dumped on public lands. All accidental spills must be reported to BLM and be cleaned up immediately, using best available practices and requirements of the law. All spills of federally or state listed hazardous materials which exceed the reportable quantities shall be promptly reported to the appropriate state agency and the Arizona Strip Field Office.
6. The holder shall be responsible for weed control on disturbed areas within the limits of the right-of-way. The holder is responsible for consultation with the authorized officer and/or local authorities for acceptable weed control methods (within limits imposed in the right-of-way stipulations). The holder shall be subject to new stipulations regarding weed control that are currently being updated in Washington, D.C. The new stipulations will address the cleaning of equipment before it is brought onto public land to ensure that weed seeds are not being transferred, etc. A copy of the new stipulations will be sent to the holder when approved.
7. Use of pesticides shall comply with the applicable Federal and state laws. Pesticides shall be used only in accordance with their registered uses and within limitations imposed by the Secretary of the Interior. Prior to the use of pesticides, the holder shall obtain from the authorized officer written approval of a plan showing the type and quantity of material to be used, pest(s) to be controlled, method of application, location of storage and mixing areas and methods of cleansing and disposing of containers, and any other information deemed necessary by the authorized officer. Emergency use of pesticides shall be approved in writing by the authorized officer prior to such use.
8. The Holder shall notify the BLM authorized officer if California condors visit the worksite while authorized activities are underway. The Holder may be requested to modify, relocate, or delay project activities where adverse affects to condors may result. Compliance with such requests is optional.
9. Any surface, or sub-surface archaeological, historical, or paleontological remains discovered and not covered in the CRPR during construction, maintenance, or use shall be left intact; all work in the area shall stop immediately and the BLM Office Field Manager for the Arizona Strip (435-688-3301) shall be notified immediately. Commence of work shall be allowed upon clearance by the BLM Office Field Manager in consultation with the Archaeologist.

An additional archaeological survey shall be required in the event the proposed project location is changed, or additional surface disturbing activities are added to the project after the initial survey. Any such survey would have to be completed prior to commencement of the project.

If in connection with use, any human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects or objects of cultural patrimony are defined in the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (P. L. 101-601; 104 Stat. 3048; 25 U.S.C. 3001) are discovered, the proponent shall stop use in the immediate area of the discovery, protect the remains and objects, and immediately notify the Field Officer Manager. The

Holder shall continue to protect the immediate area of the discovery until notified by the Authorized Officer that use may resume.

Dixie Escalante Electric Powerline for ADOT Variable Message Sign

T. 42 N., R. 12 W., Sec. 31, E2

